Ban imposed on the running of Indian schools by Saudi Arabia

1580. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Saudi Arabia has imposed ban on the running of Schools by the Indian Embassy in Riyadh, Jeddah and Dhammam and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) what action has been taken by the Indian Embassy in Riyadh to get the ban revoked and to re-open the Schools; and

(c) whether it is a fact that because of this sudden action on the part of Saudi Government the education of many Indian Schools children is in jeopardy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Yes, Sir. On April 29, 1995 all foreign Schools in Riyadh not in possession of a licence were ordered closure by the Government of Saudi Arabia. Embassy of Indian School in Riyadh whose request for a licence is pending with the concerned authorities in Saudi Arabia was also ordered closure. Schools in Jeddah and Dammam were not affected.

(b) The Embassy in Riyadh immediately took up the matter with the Saudi authorities and, as a result, the School in Riyadh was allowed to re-open after three weeks and it resumed functioning since May 21, 1995.

(c) The School was closed only for 3 weeks which included 15 days of local holidays on account of Haj. Therefore the education of the students did not suffer.

Measure to Strengthen Delhi Traffic Police

1581. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total strength of Delhi Traffic Police status-wise and what is the number of staff not in position as on 1st April, 1995;

(b) what is the establishment cost of the traffic force in 1994-95 and the preceding two years;

(c) what is the amount of fine realised by the traffic police during the past three years; year-wise;

(d) what is the acceptable norm of traffic police strength according to the number of vehicles as well as the area to be covered and when was the last strength of staff for Delhi traffic police determined and details of staff so required; and

(e) steps, taken to provide adequate staff and vehicles for the traffic requirement of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The rankwise sanctioned strength of Delhi Traffic Police alongwith number of staff not in position as on 1st April, 1995 is as under:—

Rank	Sanctioned strength	Staff not in position
DCP	2	—
ACP	15	2
Inspector	42	2
S.I.	88	—
A.S.I.	127	2
Head Constable	299	5
Constable	1259	35

(b) The establishment cost of the Trafic Police force in 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as under:—

Year	Establishment cost
1992-93	Rs. 6.14 crores
1993-94	Rs. 6.93 crores
1994-95	Rs. 7.57 crores

(c) The amount of fine and penalty realised by the Traffic Police during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as under:—

Year	Amount Realised
1992-93	Rs. 9,91,13,025.00
1993-94	Rs. 11,41,61,140.00
1994-95	Rs. 10,54,39,860.00

(d) and (e) There are no established norms equating Traffic Police strength to the number

of vehicle and the area covered. Strengthening the administrative units of Delhi Police is a continous on-going process. Proposals in this regard are examined, as and when received, on merits.

Fall in production of Oil from Andhra Pradesh Oil Fields

1582. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep fall in the production of oil from the oil fields of Andhra Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present production as compared to those of the last two years; and

(d) the efforts being made to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As against the production of 0.04 MMT in 1992-93, the production in 1993-94 was 0.17 MMT and the production in 1994-95 was 0.27 MMT.

(c) The production in the first quarter of the current year was 0.036 MMT.

(d) Efforts are being made to overcome the constraints in the transportation of crude oil so that the production from the offshore field could be increased.

Modernisation of Refineries

1583. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: (a) whether Government are aware that the existing refineries need large funds from private sector for modernisation in order to meet product quality requirement and pollution standards; and

(b) if so, whether Government are in favour of deregulation of oil and gas industry to promote competition and efficiency, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The requirement of funds for modernisation of refineries to meet product quality and pollution standards, is largely met by the concerned PSUs from their own resources. However, a Strategic Planning Group on Restructuring the National Oil Industry with members comprising of top management from public and private sector and leading experts have been formed.

Policy to encourage setting up of food processing industries in Karnataka

1584. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a policy to encourage setting up of food processing industries in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Although no State specific policy for promoting food processing industries has been formulated by the Central Government, the Government have taken various steps to promote/encourage development of food processing industries in the country including Karnataka. These steps inter alia include declaration of most food processing industries as high priority, delicensing of food processing industries except brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages, sugar and those items reserved for small scale sector, promoting domestic/foreign NRI investments, providing fiscal reliefs, etc. The Government is also operating various Plan Schemes for promoting food processing industries in the country.

Committee Report on Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd.

1585. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 6328 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th May, 1995 and state: